



THEMES AND OUTCOMES OF KENTUCKY'S LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL

LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL THEMES

- **“I, too, am a Kentuckian.”** *Abraham Lincoln, 1861*
Lincoln's Family, Friends, and Associates- Kentuckians who influenced Lincoln's personal development
- **“His was the only line of salvation for our country.”** *Thomas E. Bramlette, 1865*
Conscience, Politics, & Legacy- Kentucky's role in developing Lincoln's character, politics, and ideals
- **“I hope to have God on my side, but I must have Kentucky:”** *Attributed to Abraham Lincoln, 1861*
Lincoln and the Civil War- The effect of Lincoln's policies on Kentucky before, during, and after the Civil War
- **“Now He Belongs to the Ages:”** *Edwin M. Stanton, 1865*
Lincoln's Relevance Today- Highlighting the message of Lincoln for the 21st century

LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL OUTCOMES

Positioning: Establish Lincoln as a Kentuckian, on both a state and national level, by telling the critical role that Kentucky and Kentuckians played in the life and career of Abraham Lincoln

- Raise public awareness that Kentucky was Lincoln's birthplace
- Demonstrate the vast degree that Lincoln was influenced by Kentuckians—including his family, friends, mentors, associates, and rivals
- Increase the understanding of how Kentucky was shaped by Lincoln through his policies and politics before, during, and after the Civil War

Education: Incorporate the relevance of the Lincoln story into educational programming across Kentucky

- Encourage the development of new tools for educators to present the Lincoln story on the primary, secondary, collegiate, and adult levels
- Instill a deeper appreciation of the vital role that Kentucky played in the slavery debate, Civil War, and emancipation proclamation strategy
- Establish statewide public participation in Bicentennial educational activities including competitions, symposia, exhibits, and community events
- Demonstrate increased knowledge on Lincoln topics among Kentucky teachers and students

Cultural Infrastructure: Strengthen long-term legacy of Kentucky's Lincoln sites and museums

- Enhance interpretation, programming, and Lincoln-related collections at Lincoln sites and museums
- Add value to visitor experiences through the further development of the Lincoln Heritage Trail, public Lincoln-related art, and statewide Civil War interpretation and preservation (in preparation for Civil War Sesquicentennial)
- Encourage a diverse network of community history partnerships, ensuring that the Bicentennial has engaged a broad, multicultural audience

Tourism: Enhance Kentucky's Heritage Tourism Industry

- Engage national media and utilize an integrated marketing plan developed in conjunction with the Kentucky Tourism Cabinet to tell Kentucky's Lincoln story
- Enhance Kentucky's long-term heritage tourism resources, including infrastructure and investment
- Create a positive economic impact on the commonwealth through heritage tourism
- Create a State memorial to Abraham Lincoln on the Louisville Waterfront as a focal point for promoting tourism at Kentucky Lincoln sites

